

C.R.E.A.T.E. Outdoor Education Center

First Baptist School, Charleston, SC

In a short few months, teachers, students, parents and administrators have initiated or completed the following projects:

PROJECTS COMPLETED & INITIATED TODATE (Dec 2019):

- Picked up and bagged trash and debris dumped from off-site sources (NOTE: more trash and debris pick-up required.)
- Posted “No Trespassing” signs around the property perimeter
- Cleared, mowed and maintaining over a 1 mile of nature trails (that can simultaneously be used by the cross-country track team)
- Erected a sign for the main trail, named after 3 seniors in the Class of 2019 who were instrumental to initiating development of the outdoor education center (BCL Trail: Beck Rogers, Chip Becude, Lincoln Murray)
- Established three (3) Carolina Spilt-Rail Fence Gardens with over 40 species of native blooming plants (shrubs, trees, vines, etc.) (<http://www.scwf.org/carolina-fence-gardens>)
- Erected (to date) 5 bluebird boxes (assembled by the students)
- Erected 2 Carolina Wren nesting boxes
- Established a bird bath in one of the fence gardens
- Mulched the fence gardens
- Prepared a ¼ acre wildlife food plot (planted with native forage and seed species utilized by area wildlife such as deer, turkey, dove, song birds, etc.)
- Planted a ¼ acre strip of winter rye, clover and turnips along the main BCL Trail to attract and support wildlife (deer, turkey, etc.)
- Established a mineral “lick” for wildlife (primarily deer) on the main BCL trail
- Set up a moth monitoring “sugar” station network ([http://mothscount.org/uploads/Moth_Recorders_Handbook-finding_moths_without_moth_traps\(1\).pdf](http://mothscount.org/uploads/Moth_Recorders_Handbook-finding_moths_without_moth_traps(1).pdf))

- Set up an insect monitoring station using UV lights (<https://www.sciencefriday.com/educational-resources/observe-moths/>)
- Set up a predator “call-up” observation station
- Begin a botanical survey of the property (Led by a school parent: Patrick Dollason, Horticulturist, Charleston Parks Conservancy)
- Established a C.R.E.A.T.E. Club for students to actively contribute their time and energies into developing and utilizing the center every two weeks during the school’s “club days”
- Establishment of an annual the “Dr. Alexander Garden Trailblazer Award” For Dedicated Service to First Baptist School’s Outdoor Education Center C.R.E.A.T.E Project (awarded to students who have demonstrated exceptional support for and hand-on contributions to CREATE). **NOTE:** We would like to establish a scholarship program to support those students who wish to pursue environmental or natural resources training/education beyond high school (technical schools, 4-year college, etc.)